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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION**

CHEVRON CORP.,

Plaintiff,

V.

STEVEN DONZIGER, *et al.*

Defendants.

Case No. 3:12-mc-80237 CRB (NC)

**REPLY IN SUPPORT OF MOTION OF
NON-PARTY MOVANTS TO QUASH
SUBPOENAS TO GOOGLE, INC. AND
YAHOO! INC. SEEKING IDENTITY AND
EMAIL USAGE INFORMATION**

Date: January 16, 2013
Time: 1:00 PM
Place: Courtroom A - 15th Floor
Hon. Nathanael Cousins

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I. INTRODUCTION

These subpoenas are only the latest salvo in a campaign of discovery by Chevron so extraordinarily extensive as to be called “unique in the annals of American judicial history” by two circuit courts. *See Chevron Corp. v. Naranjo*, 667 F.3d 232, 236 (2d Cir. 2012); *In re Chevron Corp.*, 650 F.3d 276, 282 n. 7 (3d Cir. 2011). Chevron asserts that its requests are “routine” and do not violate anyone’s rights, but there is nothing routine about these subpoenas. Chevron asks this Court to authorize it to identify and map the whereabouts of 71 internet users—all but two of whom are non-parties to its lawsuit—over the course of nine years. This will reveal their associations, and could expose intimate details such as where each person slept, worshipped, worked, and vacationed for nearly a decade. Chevron cites no case authorizing civil discovery that approaches in scope or scale the subpoenas at issue here because there is no such case.

Chevron does not deny that it seeks this information. Instead the company argues that this blunderbuss is justified merely because the non-parties had some connection with environmental advocacy efforts in Ecuador and therefore with the defendants. But this assertion fails to meet the exacting legal standards that protect the identities, associations, and privacy of the Non-Party Movants. Far from satisfying those tests, Chevron’s subpoenas appear to be a blatant attempt to intimidate and harass the non-parties to discourage them from participating in the policy debate surrounding the environmental consequences of oil extraction—core political expression protected by the First Amendment. The Court should reject Chevron’s attempt to abuse the discovery process to silence these non-parties.

II. ARGUMENT

A. The Non-Party Movants Have Standing to Challenge the Subpoenas in Their Entirety.

Chevron concedes, as it must, that the Non-Party Movants have standing to challenge the subpoenas with respect to their own accounts. But Chevron claims the Non-Party Movants lack standing to challenge the subpoenas as a whole, and cannot assert the rights of others whose email accounts have been named in the subpoenas. Chevron is wrong.

1 First Amendment cases with “unique standing considerations . . . tilt dramatically toward a
 2 finding of standing.” *Lopez v. Candaele*, 630 F.3d 775, 781 (9th Cir. 2011) (citing *Ariz. Right to*
 3 *Life Political Action Comm. v. Bayless*, 320 F.3d 1002, 1006 (9th Cir. 2003) and *LSO, Ltd. v.*
 4 *Stroh*, 205 F.3d 1146, 1155 (9th Cir. 2000)) (internal quotation marks omitted). The Supreme
 5 Court has long recognized that a third party has standing to assert another’s First Amendment
 6 rights “[w]here practical obstacles prevent a party from asserting rights on behalf of itself.” *Sec’y*
 7 *of Maryland v. Joseph H. Munson Co.*, 467 U.S. 947, 956 (1984). Such standing is appropriate
 8 when the third party has suffered injury in fact, and when the third party “can reasonably be
 9 expected properly to frame the issues and present them with the necessary adversarial zeal.” *Id.*
 10 (citing *Craig v. Boren*, 429 U.S. 190, 193-194 (1976)).

11 Courts have applied this doctrine to recognize the standing of third parties to move to quash
 12 subpoenas seeking the identities of anonymous online speakers who have not directly asserted their
 13 own First Amendment rights. *See, e.g., Enterline v. Pocono Med. Ctr.*, 751 F. Supp. 2d 782 (M.D.
 14 Pa. 2008) (finding media company had standing to assert First Amendment rights of anonymous
 15 commenters on its website); *Ind. Newspapers Inc. v. Junior Achievement of Cent. Ind., Inc.*, 963
 16 N.E.2d 534, 549 (Ind. Ct. App. 2012) (same); *McVicker v. King*, 266 F.R.D. 92, 95-6 (W.D. Pa.
 17 2010) (same). This Court should follow suit to protect the First Amendment freedoms of dozens of
 18 individuals who likewise may not be able to assert their own interests.

19 First, the holders of the email accounts who have not appeared before the Court face
 20 practical obstacles to asserting their rights. Chevron has consistently misstated that account holders
 21 who have not reached out to negotiate with Chevron directly or moved to challenge the subpoenas
 22 in court have “chosen not to object to Chevron’s requests.” Chevron Corporation’s Opposition to
 23 the Non-Party Movants’ Motion to Quash Subpoenas to Google Inc. and Yahoo! Inc. (“Chevron
 24 Opp.”) (ECF No. 46) at 10; Joint Letter Brief (ECF No. 35) at 4. But there is no indication that
 25 each affected account owner has received actual notice of Chevron’s subpoenas. While the ISPs’
 26 efforts to notify their customers about the subpoenas are essential, they are a far cry from effective
 27 legal service of process. Some of the account owners may have missed the messages sent by the
 28

1 service providers, or may have been slow to read them—indeed, one account holder joined the
 2 Non-Party Movants’ motion to quash just last week. Supplemental Declaration of Michelle
 3 Harrison (“Supp. Harrison Decl.”) ¶ 5.

4 Some of the email addresses may no longer be functional, raising serious doubts that their
 5 former owners ever learned of Chevron’s subpoenas. The Movants believe that some of the email
 6 account holders live and work internationally, which may make it difficult for them to obtain
 7 counsel to challenge these subpoenas in federal court in California. Some may not read English and
 8 therefore not have understood the notice, and still others may simply have missed the email
 9 informing them that Chevron was seeking their information. For all these reasons, a number of the
 10 email account holders face practical obstacles to asserting their own interests in this action.

11 Second, the Non-Party Movants have demonstrated sufficient injury in fact. In a First
 12 Amendment challenge, a party may establish injury in fact by “demonstrat[ing] a realistic danger
 13 of sustaining a direct injury” as a result of the challenged action. *Babbitt v. United Farm Workers*
 14 *Nat’l Union*, 442 U.S. 289, 298 (1979); *Lopez*, 630 F.2d at 785 (citing standard). The Does have
 15 more than satisfied this standard. Non-Party Movants’ Mot. To Quash at 19-21; Declarations of
 16 John Does 1-7 (ECF No. 43).

17 Chevron’s aggressive litigation tactics have already chilled the Non-Party Movants’
 18 political expression and resulted in membership withdrawal. As two Doe declarants noted, they
 19 refused opportunities to work on the Chevron litigation after seeing what Chevron had put others
 20 through who participated in the case and related activism. John Doe 1 Decl. ¶ 10; John Doe 6
 21 Decl. ¶ 9. The Does feel harassed by Chevron’s attempt to obtain the information it seeks, and fear
 22 further harassment if Chevron actually gains access to personal information about their email use.
 23 Some Does state that other individuals have been subjected to harassment, threats, and intimidation
 24 for working in connection with the litigation against Chevron in Ecuador or related activism
 25 efforts. *See* John Doe 4 Decl. ¶ 11; John Doe 5 Decl. ¶ 10. Two declarants expressed concern for
 26 their physical safety if Chevron gains access to the information it seeks. John Doe 4 Decl. ¶ 11;
 27 John Doe 5 Decl. ¶ 10.

1 The Does' declarations also reflect a likelihood of chilled expression in the future. Many of
 2 the Does state that if they had known that their email usage information and location would be
 3 revealed to Chevron, their political expression at the time they were assisting with the litigation or
 4 participating in related advocacy efforts would have been chilled. John Doe 1 Decl. ¶ 9; John
 5 Doe 2 Decl. ¶ 10; John Doe 3 Decl. ¶ 8; John Doe 7 Decl. ¶ 9. They say their future political and
 6 associational activities related to Chevron will be chilled if the company obtains the personal
 7 information it seeks. John Doe 1 Decl. ¶ 10; John Doe 2 Decl. ¶ 11; John Doe 3 Decl. ¶ 9; John
 8 Doe 4 Decl. ¶ 11; John Doe 6 Decl. ¶ 9, John Doe 7 Decl. ¶ 9. They believe their associational
 9 activities will likely be chilled more generally, as well. John Doe 1 Decl. ¶ 11; John Doe 2
 10 Decl. ¶ 10; John Doe 3 Decl. ¶ 10; John Doe 4 Decl. ¶ 12; John Doe 6 Decl. ¶ 11; John Doe 7 Decl.
 11 ¶ 11.

12 The Non-Party Movants have made a *prima facie* showing that the service providers'
 13 compliance with Chevron's subpoenas will chill their constitutionally protected associational
 14 rights. The burden to justify the subpoenas is therefore Chevron's.

15 Third, the Non-Party Movants can frame the issues properly and present them with
 16 adversarial zeal. The Movants and the owners of the other email accounts listed in the subpoenas
 17 are similarly situated. Chevron seeks the same information about each of these individuals, and
 18 each account owner has First Amendment interests in the entirety of the information sought by
 19 Chevron. The Non-Party Movants have presented the legal issues in a manner that applies to all
 20 the affected individuals, and have retained counsel to litigate these questions vigorously.

21 For these reasons, the Court should find the Non-Party Movants have standing to challenge
 22 the subpoenas as they apply to each individual named in them. But even if the Court finds the
 23 Non-Party Movants do not have third-party standing to assert the First Amendment rights of the
 24 other email account holders,¹ it should exercise its discretion under Federal Rule of Civil
 25

26 ¹ In its opposition to the RICO Defendants' Motion to Quash, Chevron asserts that the defendants
 27 also lack standing to challenge the subpoenas. Under Chevron's reasoning, no one has standing to
 28 challenge the subpoenas as they apply to closed accounts, accounts whose owners do not read
(footnote continued on following page)

1 Procedure 26(c) to quash the subpoenas in their entirety because they are grossly overbroad as
 2 drafted, and are oppressive and unreasonable. *See* Non-Party Movants Mot. to Quash at 24-25; *see*
 3 *also Windsor v. Martindale*, 175 F.R.D. 665, 670 (D. Colo. 1997) (a court may quash a subpoena
 4 *sua sponte* as an exercise of its “inherent power to protect anyone from oppressive use of process”) (citing *Gregg v. Clerk of U.S. Dist. Court*, 160 F.R.D. 653, 654 (N.D. Fla. 1995)); *Broome v.*
 5 *Simon*, 255 F. Supp. 434, 437 (W.D. La. 1965) (same).

7 **B. The Subpoenas Violate the Does’ First Amendment Right to Anonymous**
 8 **Speech.**

9 The law in the Ninth Circuit is clear. When a party seeks the identity of a *non-party* in civil
 10 discovery, *Doe v. 2TheMart.com, Inc.* “sets forth the standard for unmasking a witness.” *Mount*
 11 *Hope Church v. Bash Back!*, ___ F.3d ___, No. 11-35632, 2012 U.S. LEXIS App. 24233, at *7-8 n. 4
 12 (9th Cir. Nov. 26, 2012) (citing *Doe v. 2TheMart.com*, 140 F. Supp. 2d 1088, 1095 (W.D. Wash.
 13 2001)). Throughout its opposition, Chevron attempts to conflate its requests for identifying
 14 information for non-parties with requests directed at parties’ identities. Applying any test for the
 15 discovery of parties’ identities to the non-parties here would be inappropriate.

16 Chevron argues that because some (but not all) of the Non-Party Movants use what appear
 17 to be portions of their names in their email addresses, each and every Non-Party Movant has
 18 ceased to be anonymous.² Chevron Opp. at 14. Chevron cannot have it both ways. Either Chevron
 19 already knows who the non-parties are, or it doesn’t. If Chevron knows their identities, it does not
 20 need this cumulative discovery. If Chevron does not know their identities, then it must satisfy the
 21 *2TheMart.com* test. In any event, the law is clear that one need not maintain perfect anonymity to

22
 23
 24 *(footnote continued from preceding page)*

25 English, or account owners who otherwise failed to receive notice of the subpoenas. This Court
 26 should reject Chevron’s attempt to ensure that its unconstitutional subpoenas go unchallenged.

27 ² The address hueyzactlan@gmail.com, whose owner joins the Non-Party Movants today, *see*
 28 Supp. Harrison Decl. ¶ 5, is an example of an email address that indisputably does not contain a
 name.

1 enjoy the protection of the First Amendment. *See, e.g., Watchtower Bible & Tract Society of New*
 2 *York, Inc. v. Village of Stratton*, 536 U.S. 150, 166-69 (2002).

3 Chevron proposes that this Court apply the Second Circuit's test for unmasking anonymous
 4 *defendants* enunciated in *Arista Records L.L.C. v. Doe 3*, 604 F.3d 110 (2d Cir. 2010), to the non-
 5 parties. Yet in that case, as in the other cases cited by Chevron,³ the plaintiff's suit could not
 6 proceed to substantive discovery without first identifying the party against whom the plaintiff was
 7 to litigate. The plaintiff in *Arista Records* alleged that the Doe defendant it sued engaged directly
 8 in copyright infringement, so at the outset, the court tested the plaintiff's allegation against the Doe
 9 to determine if it had made a *prima facie* case. *Id.* at 118-19.

10 Chevron has made no allegations of wrongdoing against any of the Non-Party Movants. It
 11 may be that Chevron has made a *prima facie* case against the defendants named in the complaint,
 12 but applying this analysis to the Non-Party Movants makes little sense, since Chevron has no *prima*
 13 *facie* case against them. Thus, Chevron's argument fails even under the *Arista Records* test it
 14 proposes.

15 Chevron attempts to overcome this fatal defect by repeatedly arguing that the defendants'
 16 alleged actions should be imputed to the Non-Party Movants. Chevron Opp. at 15-18. While
 17 Chevron is correct that the First Amendment does not protect the concealment of illegal activity,
 18 Chevron Opp. At 14, Chevron has not alleged any civil causes of action against the Non-Party
 19 Movants, much less criminal activity. Chevron presumably determined who had potential liability
 20 when it chose the defendants to name in its 200+ page complaint, and it chose to name many
 21 people. But Chevron did not include the Non-Party Movants as defendants. That choice has
 22 consequences and Chevron cannot now seek to have this Court treat these non-parties as parties for
 23 purposes of discovery. Accordingly, the *2TheMart.com* four-part test for the discovery of non-party
 24 witnesses' identities is the applicable test.

25
 26 ³ *Sony Music Entm't Inc. v. Does 1-40*, 326 F. Supp. 2d 556 (S.D.N.Y. 2004), *Doe v. SEC*, No. 11-
 27 mc-80184 CRB (NJV), 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 114384 (N.D. Cal. Oct. 4, 2011); *In re United*
 28 *States*, 830 F. Supp. 2d 114 (E.D. Va. 2011).

1 As described in Non-Party Movants' Motion to Quash, the *2TheMart.com* test requires that
2 "(1) the subpoena seeking the information was issued in good faith and not for any improper
3 purpose, (2) the information sought relates to a core claim or defense, (3) the identifying
4 information is directly and materially relevant to that claim or defense, and (4) information
5 sufficient to establish or to disprove that claim or defense is unavailable from any other source."
6 *2theMart.com*, 140 F. Supp. 2d at 1095. In its opposition, Chevron has failed to make the required
7 showing under any of the four parts.

8 First, Chevron has failed to show that the subpoenas were issued in good faith. To the
9 contrary, Chevron issued these subpoenas to harass and discourage non-parties' ongoing
10 participation in the political and legal debate surrounding oil extraction activities in Ecuador. This
11 Court would not be the first to find that Chevron's litigation strategy in the Ecuador litigation, and
12 specifically its behavior in conducting non-party discovery against activists "was, at least in part,
13 meant to harass." *See Chevron Corp. v. Salazar*, No. 11-0691-LAK, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS
14 153066, at *9 (D. Or. Nov. 30, 2011).

15 Chevron's Opposition demonstrates blatant disregard for the Non-Party Movants'
16 constitutional concerns, purporting to list on the public record the names of more than a dozen of
17 the movants, including all of the Does who submitted declarations demonstrating the subpoenas are
18 likely to result in harassment, membership withdrawal, and a chilling of the Non-Party Movants'
19 political expression. Chevron Opp. at 7-9.

20 In a particularly egregious example, Chevron claims to state the legal name of an activist
21 who performs his advocacy exclusively using the pseudonym "Han Shan." Chevron Opp. at 8. In
22 doing so, Chevron misrepresents that he publishes on huffingtonpost.com "under his own name."
23 Chevron's claim is untrue; indeed, only the name "Han Shan" appears in Chevron's exhibits 34 and
24 35. Attempting to "out" Han Shan and other Non-Party Movants in public court filings suggests
25 that Chevron's real goal is to intimidate, harass, and ultimately silence these individuals in
26 retaliation for their political speech and association.

1 Chevron's lack of good faith is also apparent in its justification for seeking nine years of
 2 information. Instead of explaining why nine years of IP logs is relevant for each account listed in
 3 the subpoenas, including those it believes to be owned by individuals whose involvement was
 4 limited to a short time period, Chevron attempts to shift the burden to the Non-Party Movants,
 5 asserting that they "have failed to offer evidence as to a period of time when they were *not*
 6 supporting" the defendants. Chevron Opp. at 21 (emphasis in original). This attempt to shift the
 7 burden seems aimed at requiring the non-parties to take steps to undermine their own anonymity as
 8 a condition of protecting it. But the burden to show good faith is Chevron's alone.

9 Chevron's lack of good faith is especially striking because Google and Yahoo! have
 10 represented to counsel for the Non-Party Movants, and presumably to Chevron, that in the ordinary
 11 course of business they only retain IP logs for a fraction of the time the subpoenas cover—typically
 12 no more than a year. Cohn Decl. ¶¶ 3-5. Assuming the providers have IP logs up to a year prior to
 13 the date of Chevron's subpoenas, the information that would be disclosed in response to Chevron's
 14 subpoenas is from roughly October 2011 to October 2012 (when the operative subpoenas were
 15 served on Google and Yahoo!). Cohn Decl. ¶¶ 3-4, Ex. A. Chevron offers no explanation why
 16 information from the past year alone—which appears to be the only information available—could
 17 be in any way necessary to prove, or even relevant to, its RICO claims. Chevron cannot in good
 18 faith argue that this information is necessary for its case.

19 Second, Chevron has failed to show how the identity and IP logs of each and every one of
 20 the 69 non-party account owners will go to show the actions the defendants, where the defendants
 21 were located when they allegedly committed those actions, or how they did so. Here again,
 22 Chevron confuses parties and non-parties. Chevron asserts that because it has "well-supported
 23 RICO claims" against the Defendants, the subpoenas should stand even as to the non-parties. *See*
 24 Chevron Opp. at 19. Chevron has identified three rationales for issuing these discovery demands:
 25 that they will "[1] provide evidence about the structure and management of the *RICO defendants'*
 26 fraudulent enterprise, [2] will confirm that many of the *defendants'* fraudulent acts occurred in the
 27 United States . . . [and 3] establish how major acts of fraud . . . were perpetrated." Chevron Opp.

at 2 (emphasis added). Chevron has declined to make the required address-by-address showing that it has a good faith belief that the identity of each non-party account owner, along with the full nine years' worth of IP logs it seeks for each account, will contribute to any of the three goals it identified. *See* Chevron Opp. at 7. And it certainly has not made such a showing that IP logs since October 2011—which is the timeframe during which logs likely exist—bear any relationship to these rationales. Declaration of Cindy Cohn (“Cohn Decl.”) ¶¶ 2-5. Perhaps Chevron has made such a showing as to those accounts owned by the defendants, but that does not save these subpoenas. The massive overbreadth of the subpoenas and Chevron’s failure to narrow them after lengthy negotiations demonstrates that Chevron has not satisfied its burden to demonstrate that the information it seeks is “directly and materially relevant to [a] claim or defense.” *See 2theMart.com*, 140 F. Supp. 2d at 1095.

Finally, Chevron seems to assert that the information it seeks is unavailable from any other source because the defendants fought discovery early on in the litigation. *See* Chevron Opp. at 5-6, 19. But Chevron glosses over the fact that it eventually won most of those battles and has obtained an extraordinary amount of discovery.⁴ Among other items in Chevron’s possession are all of Steven Donziger’s emails, his computer hard drive, work product from his interns and co-counsel, and his personal journals.⁵ While Chevron of course cannot obtain Google and Yahoo!’s IP logs

⁴ *Chevron Corp. v. Berlinger*, 629 F.3d 297 (2d Cir. 2011); *Ecuadorian Plaintiffs v. Chevron Corp.*, 619 F.3d 373 (5th Cir. 2010); *In re Chevron Corp. (Calmbacher)*, No. 1:10-MI-0076-TWT-GGB, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 114724 (N.D. Ga. Mar. 2, 2010); *In re Chevron Corp. (Scardina)*, No. 7:10-mc-00067-JCT, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 125174 (W.D. Va. Nov. 24, 2010); *Chevron Corp. v. E-Tech Int’l*, No. 10-cv-1146-IEG-WMc, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 94396 (S.D. Cal. Sept. 10, 2010); *In re Chevron Corp. (Bonifaz)*, 762 F. Supp. 2d 242 (D. Mass. 2010); *In re Chevron Corp. (Quarles)*, No. 3:10-cv-00686-JTN-JB, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 120798 (M.D. Tenn. Aug. 17, 2010); *Chevron Corp. v. Stratus Consulting, Inc.*, No. 10-cv-00047-MSK-MEH, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 110023 (D. Colo. Oct. 1, 2010); *In re Chevron Corp. (Rourke)*, 753 F. Supp. 2d 536 (D. Md. 2010); *Chevron Corp. v. Shefftz*, 754 F. Supp. 2d 254 (D. Mass. 2010); *In re Chevron Corp. (Donziger)*, 749 F. Supp. 2d 141 (S.D.N.Y. 2010), *aff’d sub nom Lago Agrio Plaintiffs v. Chevron Corp.*, 409 Fed. Appx. 393 (2d Cir. 2010); *Chevron Corp. v. Camp*, No. 1:10-mc-00027-GCM-DLH, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 97440 (W.D.N.C. Aug. 30, 2010).

⁵ *In re Chevron Corp.*, No. 10-mc-00002-LAK (S.D.N.Y. Jan. 21, 2011) (ordering disclosure of Donziger’s hard drive, ECF No. 171); *In re Chevron Corp.*, No. 10-mc-00002-LAK (S.D.N.Y. Jan. 13, 2011) (ordering disclosure of Donziger’s email accounts and all of his electronically stored

(footnote continued on following page)

1 from other sources, it can certainly obtain evidence of the defendants' identities and locations
2 elsewhere, which is what it represents is ultimately relevant to its claims. Indeed, it already has.

3 **C. The Subpoenas Violate the Non-Party Movants' First Amendment Right to**
4 **Association.**

5 Chevron's efforts to pierce the Non-Party Movants' right to association also fail. The Non-
6 Party Movants have made a *prima facie* showing of arguable First Amendment infringement, and
7 Chevron has failed to show that its interest in the information it seeks is significant enough to
8 defeat the account owners' First Amendment rights.

9 First, Chevron misconstrues the associational interest at issue here. Chevron repeatedly
10 describes the relevant association as the "involvement" between the non-party email account
11 owners and the plaintiffs in the Lago Agrio litigation. Chevron Opp. at 20. In fact, the Non-Party
12 Movants have asserted their right to associate with others engaged in environmental litigation
13 against the oil company and more broadly to environmental activism, all of which is highly
14 protected political speech reaching beyond the Lago Agrio litigation or any alleged RICO
15 enterprise. *See, e.g., NAACP v. Button*, 371 U.S. 415, 429-31 (1963); *Thomas v. Collins*, 323 U.S.
16 516, 537 (1945). Chevron may not agree with the Non-Party Movants' viewpoints, but "[t]he
17 freedom to associate applies to the beliefs we share, and to those we consider reprehensible."
18 *Gilmore v. City of Montgomery*, 417 U.S. 556, 321 (1974). Chevron has never claimed that the
19 Non-Party Movants violated the law, and merely alleging that the defendants carried out a fraud
20 does not nullify the non-parties' First Amendment rights. *See Illinois ex rel. Madigan v.*
21 *Telemarketing Assocs.*, 538 U.S. 600, 617 (2003) ("Simply labeling an action one for 'fraud,' of
22 course, will not carry the day.").

23 Next, Chevron focuses myopically on the identities of the Does, arguing that the disclosure
24 of their names will not harm their associational freedoms because "the genie has left the bottle."

25 *(footnote continued from preceding page)*

26 information using Chevron's search terms, ECF No. 162); *In re Chevron Corp.*, No. 10-mc-00002-
27 LAK (S.D.N.Y. Aug. 16, 2011) (ordering disclosure of all documents under Donziger's control
28 from interns and attorneys with whom he worked in connection with the Ecuadorian litigation and
whom could have documents responsive to Chevron's search terms, ECF No. 199).

1 Chevron Opp. at 20. But this argument sidesteps the proper inquiry. As the Ninth Circuit has held,
 2 “[t]he existence of a prima facie case turns not on the type of information sought, but on whether
 3 *disclosure of the information will have a deterrent effect on the exercise of protected activities.*”
 4 *Perry v. Schwarzenegger*, 591 F.3d 1126, 1141 (9th Cir. 2010) (citing *NAACP v. State of Alabama*
 5 *ex rel. Patterson*, 357 U.S. 449, 460-61 (1958) and *Brock v. Local 375, Plumbers Int’l Union of*
 6 *Am., AFL-CIO*, 860 F.2d 346, 349-50 (9th Cir. 1988)) (emphasis added).

7 While Chevron complains that the Non-Party Movants have not made an adequate
 8 threshold showing of arguable First Amendment infringement, the movants have presented
 9 declarations from several Does attesting to the impact compelled disclosure of their identities and
 10 email usage information will have on their future expressive activities—which is just what the
 11 Ninth Circuit found in *Perry* established the requisite showing. 591 F.3d at 1143 (a small number
 12 of declarations “attesting to the impact compelled disclosure would have on participation and
 13 formulation of strategy . . . [are sufficient to] create[] a reasonable inference that disclosure would
 14 have the practical effects of discouraging political association.”). *See also Dole v. Serv. Emps.*
 15 *Union, AFL-CIO, Local 280*, 950 F.2d 1456, 1459-61 (9th Cir. 1991) (finding that a union made a
 16 *prima facie* case of arguable First Amendment infringement by submitting a declaration from a
 17 union official and two letters from members who said they would no longer participate in union
 18 meetings if the minutes were disclosed).

19 While Chevron dismisses the Does’ concerns about chilling effects as “baseless
 20 speculation,” the relevant question is whether the disclosure “would have the *practical effect* of
 21 discouraging the exercise of constitutionally protected political rights,” and the Non-Party Movants
 22 have demonstrated it will. *Dole*, 950 F.2d at 1460 (quoting *NAACP v. Alabama*, 357 U.S. at 461
 23 and *Am. Commc’ns Ass’n v. Douds*, 339 U.S. 382, 393 (1950)) (internal quotation marks omitted)
 24 (emphasis original in *Dole*). And given that the courts in this Circuit have already found that
 25 Chevron issued other non-party discovery in order to harass, and awarded substantial attorneys fees
 26 as a result, the Non-Party Movants’ concerns cannot be waved off as mere speculation. *See*
 27 *Salazar*, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 153066.

1 Shifting to the First Amendment standard, Chevron contends that it has a “compelling
2 interest” in the information it seeks, the information sought is “rationally related” to that interest,
3 and the subpoenas are the “least restrictive means of obtaining the desired information.” *Brock*, 860
4 F.2d at 350; *Perry*, 591 F.3d at 1140. This claim does not pass muster.

5 Chevron seeks nine years of information about each of the 71 email accounts listed in the
6 subpoenas. The company offers little detail about why this massive amount of information is
7 necessary to litigate its claims, summarily concluding that “the fraud at issue has been going on for
8 decades,” and the subpoenas request information “for the time period since the Ecuador litigation
9 began.” Chevron Opp. at 21. Chevron makes no effort to show how each account holder’s
10 information is relevant to Chevron’s RICO claims. The only specific details Chevron offers to link
11 the 69 non-parties to the alleged fraud is to suggest they could have been involved in the
12 “ghostwriting” of an expert’s report in the Ecuador litigation and the Ecuador court’s judgment.
13 Chevron Opp. at 11. The final report was submitted to the court on April 1, 2008, and the
14 judgment was issued on February 14, 2011. Chevron Opp. Ex. 2 at 10-12. Assuming *arguendo* that
15 Chevron’s bald allegations were sufficient to trump the Non-Party Movants’ First Amendment
16 rights—which they are not—this explanation could only justify the disclosure of information from
17 a much shorter period of time ending in February 2011.

18 Chevron implicitly concedes that its subpoenas are overbroad, noting that it offered to tailor
19 the timeframe for Non-Party Movants who would identify themselves and volunteer the time range
20 during which they “associated” with the Lago Agrio plaintiffs. Chevron Opp. at 13. But it is not the
21 non-parties’ burden to prove their information is irrelevant to Chevron’s case, but rather Chevron’s
22 burden to show that it has a “compelling interest” in the information it seeks. Chevron cannot make
23 this showing with respect to *any* of the 69 email addresses associated with non-parties.

24 This is particularly true given the information Google and Yahoo! have explained they are
25 likely to have that is actually responsive to the subpoenas. According to the providers, the IP logs
26 that would be disclosed dates back to roughly October 2011, *after* the specific events in which
27 Chevron suggests the Non-Party Movants’ email accounts may have been involved. Cohn Decl.
28

¶¶ 3-4, Ex. A. Chevron cannot have any legitimate interest in IP logs for the short time period Google and Yahoo! keep them, much less a compelling interest.

It follows that the subpoenaed information is not rationally related to the interest Chevron asserts. Indeed, the vast amount of data Chevron seeks—and the far more time-limited information that the providers might actually have—is not relevant to Chevron’s claims at all, much less “highly relevant,” as Ninth Circuit precedent requires. *Perry*, 591 F.3d at 1141.

Nor are these subpoenas the least restrictive means of obtaining the desired information. While Chevron complains it has had difficulty obtaining discovery directly from the defendants in the case, it concedes it has “already obtained thousands of emails sent to and from the RICO defendants and those associated with them,” Chevron Opp. at 17-18, as well as other extraordinary discovery, *supra* at 9. While the defendants may not have the exact IP logs possessed by the providers, Chevron is trying to establish the relationships between the non-party email account holders and the RICO defendants. Traditional third-party discovery has already yielded substantial information, as Chevron admits. This Court should not allow Chevron to leverage this extraordinary discovery request to conduct a fishing expedition into the non-party account holders’ private lives and associations.

D. The Subpoenas Violate the Non-Party Movants’ Right to Privacy Under the California Constitution.

Chevron’s answer to the Non-Party Movants’ assertion of their California constitutional right to privacy boils down to an argument that non-parties have no reasonable expectation of privacy in the requested information, either because they used an email service to begin with or because of the very nature of IP addresses, regardless of context. Chevron Opp. at 22-23. The key case Chevron cites for this proposition is easily distinguishable, however, since it involved a government request for a single instance of a criminal defendant’s IP address to identify the computer used to commit a crime. *People v. Stipo*, 195 Cal. App. 4th 664 (2011).

That slim authority simply does not support the conclusion that dozens of non-party activists, journalists, interns, volunteers, and attorneys have no expectation of privacy in their legal identities or the IP addresses of every computer or mobile device they used to check their email in

the last nine years, when that information is being sought to track their physical movements and map their political associations. Even in the very different context of criminal prosecutions, the Supreme Court has recognized that the long-term collection and compilation of personal information like location, IP address, and criminal records implicates a very different, and much greater, expectation of privacy. *See Dept. of Justice v. Reporters Comm. For Freedom of Press*, 489 U.S. 749, 764 (1989) (there is a “distinction, in terms of personal privacy, between scattered disclosure of the bits of information contained in a rap sheet and revelation of the rap sheet as a whole”); *United States v. Jones*, 565 U.S. ___, 132 S. Ct. 945, 964 (2012) (“short-term monitoring of a person’s movements on public streets accords with expectations of privacy” but “the use of longer term GPS monitoring in investigations of most offenses impinges on expectations of privacy.”) (Alito, J. concurring).

In this case, even if a defendant who sent a particular email in furtherance of an alleged fraud had no expectation of privacy in the IP address of the computer from which he sent that email, this Court should find that the 69 non-parties whose information is also sought by Chevron have a reasonable expectation of privacy in the associational and location information attendant in the compilation of nine years’ worth—or even one year’s worth—of their collective IP logs and subscriber data.

III. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, the September 19, 2012 subpoenas served by Chevron upon Google and Yahoo! should be quashed in their entirety.

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Respectfully submitted,

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